

The Alexandria Gazette

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 18.

Preparations are making in many places, North and South, for the celebration of the 4th of July. In Washington, arrangements are making on a large scale. In Alexandria, a meeting of Union citizens has been held on the subject, at which Gen. Slough stated that the military would unite in the celebration. Wm. D. Massey was appointed Chief Marshal; Rev. Wm. F. Speake, chaplain; Rev. T. G. Carver reader of the Declaration of Independence, and an orator selected. John Bull, of the Quartermaster's Department, and Stephen Shinn, were selected to obtain subscriptions from the Union citizens. Capt. Ferguson, of the Quartermaster's Department, is to aid in completing the arrangements for the day.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press writing in reference to Gen. Hooker's movement from the vicinity of Fredericksburg in the direction of Centreville says: "The opposing forces have changed their bases and a battle is unavoidable. It will probably occur somewhere near Bull Run." Some of the newspapers have plans of the campaign now going on, and speculations as to the movements and designs and strength of the opposing forces, which are merely the opinions of the writers, without any more data to go upon than are known to the public generally.

The National Intelligencer urges President Lincoln to recall GEN. McCLELLAN to the command of the Army of the Potomac. It contends that, "whether regard be had to the morale of the army, to the defence of the capital, or to the expulsion of the invading foe, Gen. McClellan is the man of the hour."

A very destructive fire occurred at Emmitsburg, Md., on Monday night, which destroyed twenty five or thirty houses, including a large hotel and some of the principal buildings.

The Marlboro, Md., Gazette states that this year not one fourth of a tobacco crop will be raised in Prince George's county; and the wheat crop is materially injured.

A mountain of salt exists on the eastern end of the island of St. Domingo. Persons from the U. S. are about to engage in "working this mine."

The weather is now very warm. Yesterday was the hottest day this summer;—in the afternoon the thermometer standing at 92.

The N. Y. Seventh Regiment proceeded yesterday to Harrisburg.

Gold, in New York, yesterday, 145½.

Yesterday morning one of the members of Company I, Second District regiment, doing guard duty on the Long Bridge, was shot in the head and almost instantly killed by another soldier named James McGee.

Troops are flocking to Harrisburg. Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey have already started their forces, and Massachusetts, Maine and other States promise to follow their example.

Nearly three thousand longshoremen and stevedores are on a strike in New York.

WAR NEWS.

There is but little known in reference to Gen. Hooker's whereabouts, except that he is watching Gen. Lee's movements, and that no general engagement has yet taken place. On Monday evening he proceeded on the road to Fairfax Station, where he arrived on Monday night. The Sixth Army Corps, a portion of which had lain across the river below Fredericksburg, had previously been withdrawn, under cover of the darkness, with trifling loss, the pontoons were taken up, and the whole army was soon in motion to checkmate Lee, who was ascertained to have effected a crossing of the river at Rappahannock Station, and to be moving toward Warrenton. On Sunday evening at 7 o'clock cannonading was heard in the direction of Thoroughfare Gap, of which no explanation has yet been given. It was considered probable in Washington that another great battle would be fought on or near the historical battle-field of Bull Run. All the stores at Belle Plain and Aquia Creek were successfully removed to Alexandria, which is Gen. Hooker's base of supplies.

The news from Vicksburg is to the 12th inst., two days later. The siege was still progressing and there was no change in the position of affairs. On the night of the 4th the Confederates made a sortie, but soon withdrew inside their fortifications. The Federal forces at Milliken's Bend have been largely reinforced.

An arrival from Port Royal reports that Gen. Gilmore has arrived and superseded Gen. Hunter in command. Col. Montgomery, at the head of his negro regiment, had made a raid into Georgia and destroyed the town of Darien, and shelled Brunswick. The land forces near Charleston retain their old position.

A skirmish occurred at Wilson's Creek, Ky., on Saturday last, in which the Confederates were defeated with considerable loss.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Phila. Inquirer.]

WASHINGTON, June 17,—A special despatch from one of the Inquirer's correspondents, says that the Confederate mail, captured by the cavalry, contained a large number of letters from troops, and among them was one from an Aid of General Ewell, who says that they are on a large raid into Maryland and Pennsylvania, and that their cavalry are en route for Pittsburg.

Appearances to-night indicate that Pennsylvania has been laboring under premature alarm.

There is no report of any battle to-day, or any in prospect; not even a skirmish in front of Washington.

T. Alfred Eisenbry has been appointed Chief Clerk of the Deserters' Department, which is now one of no small magnitude.

Col. L. C. Baker has been authorized by the War Department to increase the cavalry force he is organizing to an entire regiment. Recruits are joining.

The steamship Norwegian, of the Canadian line, which left Liverpool on the 4th, and Londonderry on the 5th, for Quebec, was wrecked on St. Paul's island on the morning of the 14th, during a thick fog. All the passengers and crew, together with the mails, baggage, and newspaper dispatches were saved.

Parson Brownlow is now installed at Nashville as special agent of the Treasury Department, for the suppression of smuggling and the collection of customs.

The superseding of General Hunter in command at Port Royal is settled by the fact that he arrived at New York yesterday with his staff.

In Boston, some days since, a child ten months old died from the effects of inhaling the atmosphere of a room newly painted.

The Evacuation of Winchester.

The outer works at Winchester were carried by the Confederates by storm at six o'clock on Sunday evening, and the whole fortifications strongly invested by a force of not less than fifteen thousand men under General Ewell. It became at once a question of ultimate surrender, or to make a bold dash to force their way through the Confederate lines, and a Council of War held on Sunday night unanimously advised an evacuation. The large guns and his artillery were all spiked at once, and at one o'clock on Monday morning he abandoned everything except his horses and struck boldly through the Confederate lines. The movement was so rapid that the Confederates were taken by surprise, and the night being quite dark, the movement, so far as the troops immediately investing the works were concerned, was accomplished with but little loss.

They were followed by cavalry and a great many stragglers taken prisoners, but when four miles this side of Winchester, at the junction of the road leading from Berryville to Bun'el's Hill and Martinsburg, they were intercepted by a strong Confederate force with artillery, and strongly posted in the woods on the roadside. General Millroy rallied his men and made several attempts to storm and capture their batteries, but was driven back.

Daylight was now rapidly approaching, and it was deemed prudent to endeavor again to cut their way through which was successfully accomplished, but being without artillery they suffered considerably, especially in prisoners captured, before the Confederates gave up the pursuit.

About twelve o'clock on Sunday they reached Hallsboro, and the Confederates having abandoned the pursuit they, after a short rest, marched into Harper's Ferry during the afternoon. All the stores, ammunition and wagons at Winchester fell into the hands of the Confederates, together with all the artillery, not a gun having been saved.

A FRENCH STORY.—"M. Guillardet, in his Paris correspondence with the Courier des Etas Unis, relates an anecdote of one of the celebrities of the demi-monde, in the gay capital, who in all the public resorts and reunions, has been making herself notorious. This young girl's name was Herr, and she was equally famed for her beauty and her insensibility. She had played off in public her modesty, her youth, her reputation, everything, excepting only her heart. She was called the little marble doll. But one day the time that comes to all (or most) came to her, and love which she had hitherto defied, upset completely her proud impassibility. She loved, but was disdained, and her passion even made a laughing stock of. For this she saw no remedy but in suicide, and a frightful mode of death did she choose. She attired herself in her most delicate ball dress and threw herself into the fire intending to die after the fashion of the widows of Malabar. But her cries caused by the pain she suffered, attracted a crowd of rescuers—for this scene occurred, it seems, in one of the chambers of a grand hotel,—who saved her despite herself from the devouring flames. Her wounds, it is said are mortal, however. The lesson read by Mons Gallardet to his readers as the moral of this tale is,—be careful how you play with fire, or—love."

Negotiations are nearly completed for the transfer of the Hudson's Bay Company's rights and privileges to the British Government.

The Union Convention which met at Cleveland, Ohio, yesterday, was the largest ever held in the State. John Brough, esq., a war Democrat, will probably be nominated as Governor.

The N. Y. Commercial Advertiser understands that the subject of paying their dividends in specie is now under discussion by a portion of the banks of that city, both as an act of justice and policy.